

Federation of State Beef Councils



July 31, 2010

The Honorable Tom Vilsack
Secretary
United States Department of Agriculture
1400 Independence Ave. SW
Washington, D.C. 20250

Dear Mr. Secretary:

We the undersigned, as directors of the Federation of State Beef Councils, ask you to carefully consider the attached resolution, adopted today by the Federation Board of Directors. Together, we have 14 years of demonstrated success in building beef demand through our state-national partnership with the National Cattlemen's Beef Association.

Although other national organizations are weighing in on our Federation structure, the Beef Act and Order clearly contemplate that we, the State Beef Councils, determine how we will be organized and how we will invest our 50-cents on behalf of grassroots producers. Our state boards are made up of every industry sector and include representatives of all of the national organizations that are pressing you for separation.

Ironically, while the complaints of these groups center on a lack of representation, our Federation members deliver exactly the kind of representation they are demanding. While you ensure diversity at the national level through your appointment of producers to the CBB, our organizations reflect that same diversity at the local level . . . just as intended by the Act & Order.

At a time when resources are scarce and industry challenges are many, we ask that you allow the voice of the Federation to be heard and honored accordingly. We look forward to further discussions with you to present our position. It is our desire to put the issue of separation behind us and return our focus exclusively to building beef demand and addressing issues that threaten beef producers who pay the checkoff.

We will contact you in the near future to present a Federation structure we believe is consistent with your expectations.

Sincerely,

Mr. Scott George, Chairman
Federation of State Beef Councils
338 Road 20,
Cody, WY 82414
T. 307.272.9473

Mr. David Dick, Vice-Chairman
Federation of State Beef Councils
23529 Anderson School Road
Sedalia, MO 65301
T. 720. 299.0860

Cc: Mr. Edward Avalos, Undersecretary of Agriculture
Mr. John Ferrell, Deputy Undersecretary of Agriculture
Ms. Rayne Pegg, Administrator, Agricultural Marketing Service

Federation of State Beef Council Directors:

Name

Organization

<i>[Signature]</i>	Nebraska Beef Council
<i>[Signature]</i>	Nebraska Beef Council
William H. H. H.	Nebraska Beef Council
Ann K. Buntz	Nebraska Beef Council
Dave Hamilton	The Beef Council
Myron Danner	Nebraska Beef Council
Frank Harper	Kansas Beef Council
<i>[Signature]</i>	Kansas Beef Council
Jane C. Ferguson	Kansas Beef Council
Shelley Webb	Iowa Beef Industry Council
Paul D. MacKenzie	Iowa Beef Industry Council
Paul McLaughlin	Iowa Beef Industry Council
Thomas C. Holt	Iowa Beef Industry Council
Trevor L. Toland	Illinois Beef Association - Beef Council
<i>[Signature]</i>	Colorado Beef Council
Cliff Dance	Mississippi Beef Council
<i>[Signature]</i>	Kentucky Beef Council
<i>[Signature]</i>	NY Beef Industry Council
J. Bartlett	NY Beef Industry Council
Karl Burnett	Ohio Beef Council
Bill Sexton	Ohio Beef Council
Tom D. [Signature]	MBIC (Missouri)
Jim [Signature]	MO Beef Industry Council
Ernie H. [Signature]	PA Beef Council
Clayton [Signature]	PA Beef Council

Kathy Tokal	ND Beef Commission
James E. Holt	ND Beef Commission
George B. Holt	Montana Beef Industry Council
Jim Rogers	Wyo Beef Council
Dianne Kirkbride	Wyoming Beef Council
Erwin J. Fabel	Wyoming Beef Council, Region V Vice Pres.
Richard TORRE	TEXAS BEEF COUNCIL
Don Smith	Texas Beef Council, Region 4 Vice President
Shirley Joy Stovall	Texas Beef Council
Carl J.	TEXAS BEEF COUNCIL
James Byers	Texas Beef Council
James Wiley	MBFC
John Frost	N. M. Beef Council
Leon Hughes	Florida Beef Council
Frank H. Thomas	Ga. Beef Council
Tom Star	Ga. BEEF. Council
Jack Cutshall	Louisiana Beef Industry Council
Steve Harmon	Montana Beef Council
Jim Steinbeiner	Montana Beef Council
Lucy A. Rachel	Nevada Beef Council
W. A. Blackman	Arkansas Beef Council
Charles McDonald	Arkansas Beef Council
Gary Hullon	Utah Beef Council
Scott Jones	SD Beef Council
Gregory Thomas	SD Beef Council
Roger Cozby	SD Beef Council
Michael Silbray	AZ BEEF COUNCIL

Federation of State Beef Council Directors:

Name

Organization

Laurie Lichley

SD Beef Council

Evelyn Brown

Alabama Cattlemen Assoc.

James McPherson

OK Beef Council

Butt Munnig

Okla. Beef Council

Bill [Signature]

OK - Beef Council

Sid Viehrock

WA STATE BEEF COMMISSION

Chuck Adams

WISCONSIN STATE BEEF COUNCIL

[Signature]

CA Beef Council

[Signature]

CA Beef Council

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CA. BEEF COUNCIL

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